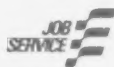




Washington



Washington State
Employment Security
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In cooperation with the
Employment and Training
Administration
U.S. Department of Labor

September 1991

Highlights

Summer Of Our Discontent

As if anyone needed to be told, the economy, both nationally and regionally, showed little fanfare through the summer of 1991. Area weather finally turned positive late in the season and stayed awhile into early fall. That was good news for such outdoor activities as agriculture, construction, and portions of recreation and tourism. But the underlying tone of the economy progressively weakened. Seasonally adjusted payrolls dropped in August for the sixth consecutive month, and unemployment tracked higher than a year ago by a spread which has basically been in force since January.

Those industries which normally expand at this time of year proceeded to mount. Resource-based manufacturing,

construction, services, and trade all added significant numbers of workers in August. However, in each case the amount of job growth was less than experienced in recent past years. Bear in mind that any current measurements are being compared against very high growth trends in 1988-90. And the shortfall in most industries is only relative to cumulative record employment levels attained in 1990.

The Forecast Council has termed the present rout a recession. Whether or not this is true there is no escaping the fact that real growth of the economy has waned. The state entered the year with a 77,000 worker year-over-year margin which had deteriorated to 8,100 by August and headed lower. Even with a fairly typical seasonal uplift in the fourth quarter, there is good chance that the state could enter 1992 with employment below the prior year for the first time since the pullout from recession in 1983.

LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Washington's unemployment rate dropped sharply by half a percentage point in August from 5.9 percent to 5.4 percent of the civilian workforce. The pattern over the month was typical owing to summertime heightening in both the resource-based and non-resource based portions of the economy. However, the magnitude of the shift in joblessness was more than expected. And, as a result, the seasonally adjusted jobless rate for the state dropped from 6.0 percent in July to 5.7 percent - the lowest of any month for the year to date.

On the other hand, there is little likelihood this trend will continue. Late release of workers in local education early in the month probably resulted in some abnormalities in calculating the labor force and total employment statistics. But even more pointed is the fact that the overall job growth has slowed and unemployment has consistently tracked higher than a year ago ever since the beginning of the year. The latest month contrasts sharply with a low of 4.2 percent in August 1990.

Nonetheless, the state still enjoyed a favorable margin over the national average. Joblessness nationwide measured a much higher 6.5 percent in August - greater than one full percentage point higher than the state. In general, this pattern has prevailed for the better part of 18 months. Continued lower than national tracking is unusual. Only in the late-1960s at the very pinnacle of the "Boeing Boom" did the state dip briefly below the nation as a whole in terms of statewide joblessness. The high degree of seasonality inherent in Washington's economy has tended to give the state a distinct disadvantage in this regard. But differences in timing with respect to the turning point of the business cycle has been the major player this time around.

Resident Civilian Labor Force Employment and Unemployment in Washington State

	Aug 1991 <i>Preliminary</i>	Jul 1991 <i>Revised</i>	Aug 1990
Resident Civilian Labor Force	2,479,800	2,536,100	2,515,200
Employment	2,346,600	2,385,500	2,409,200
Unemployment	133,200	150,600	106,000
Unemployment Rate	5.4%	5.9%	4.2%
National Unemployment Rate	6.5%	6.7%	5.4%

Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.

Source: Employment Security Department; Bureau of Labor Statistics

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

Washington's nonfarm wage and salary employment increased by 2,500 workers in August. The net gain was lighter than average owing not only to a generally slowed economy but offsetting loss coming from later than usual cutbacks in local education. Extended opening of Seattle area schools into July because of teachers strikes and inclement weather earlier in the season contributed heavily to an atypical 10,100 drop in education in August. Private payrolls actually heightened by 10,900 - roughly equivalent to 1990.

Seasonal pickup occurred throughout most sectors of the economy. Construction mounted by 1,400 workers spread fairly evenly between general building (+600) and special trade contractors (+800). Highways and public works payrolls were flat. Gains over the past several years averaged better than 3,000 for the month. But housing and office

space in the greater Seattle area has now become a glut on the market. New housing starts were off 30 percent through the first eight months.

Frenzy Feeding In The Sun

The month of August typically marks the peak of Washington's tourist season. No Goodwill Games stole the limelight this year nor major conventions of national note. However, services and trade both mounted significantly by 2,700 and 2,200 workers, respectively.

As expected, payrolls increased over the month at hotels and lodging facilities (+500) and eating and drinking establishments (+700). On the other hand, no gain took place in either air or water transportation services. Passenger traffic at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport showed a slight dip from a year ago through August, with a 2.6 percent *increase* in domestic traffic offset by a 20 percent *falloff* in international counts. The nation's airlines generally are hurting in 1991 as the recession and the prospect of a maturing airline traffic growth curve takes an increasing toll of the bottom line.

Stowing It Away For School

The boost in retailing largely reflected back-to-school shopping. Department store payrolls advanced by 800 and specialty apparel and accessory shops added 400 in August. This is a typical buildup for fall which precedes the major holiday swell for the Christmas buying season late in the fourth quarter. Meanwhile, a drawdown of 600 occurred at area food stores.

Retailing in general is being affected by a combination of factors - none of them good. Consumer confidence swelled briefly with an end to the Mideast crisis but then dropped back quickly as the economy continued to stumble. Reports of massive layoffs and major industry restructuring elsewhere in the nation have made the consumer skittish. Large overhanging debt, both personal and corporate, was yet another factor coming into the period. Recent payback has been nothing short of spectacular. And finally, discretionary income all along the line has been inordinately

pinched in 1991 by the runup in income taxes, property taxes, and utility bills at rates well in excess of the corresponding hike in wage and salary payments.

Manufacturing Toes The Line

Manufacturing added 3,900 workers in August. Most of the gain resulted from purely seasonal increases in food processing (+3,700). On balance, the basic goods-producing sector was flat. Lumber and wood products dropped by 100, as did primary metals, industrial machinery, and instruments and related products. The offset came from a 400-worker increase in aircraft and parts.

Payrolls in Washington's aircraft industry have jumped 1,100 since the first of the year rather than pulling back as was expected coming into 1991. The current level of 117,200 measures 1,800 higher than August 1990 and just 1,500 below the all-time high posted in January 1990. But Boeing has technically frozen employment for the fourth quarter, which means stability at best.

It is expected that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recovery plan for the northern spotted owl will be approved finally sometime in December. This will be followed by the Forest Service environmental impact statement designed to implement the plan. As it stands, the proposed closure of federal forests to timber harvesting in the state of Washington could go as high as 70 to 90 percent, depending on specific location. And the impact of these restrictions plus the export ban on logs from state-owned lands translates into a potential loss to the state of between 7,600 to 9,300 lumber and wood products jobs.

Timber supplies in 1991 have proven to be relatively unencumbered despite court action and high levels of uncertainty. Substantial carryover of set-aside from the Adams-Hatfield accord still existed and private timberowners jumped into the fray for fear of either losing their investment outright or getting less return at some point in the future. Further, the national recession arbitrarily pulled down demand for building materials including lumber, and the economies of the major export nations weakened. The result has been an over-the-year employment loss to date of less than 3,000.

*Annual Spread Positive
But Narrowing*

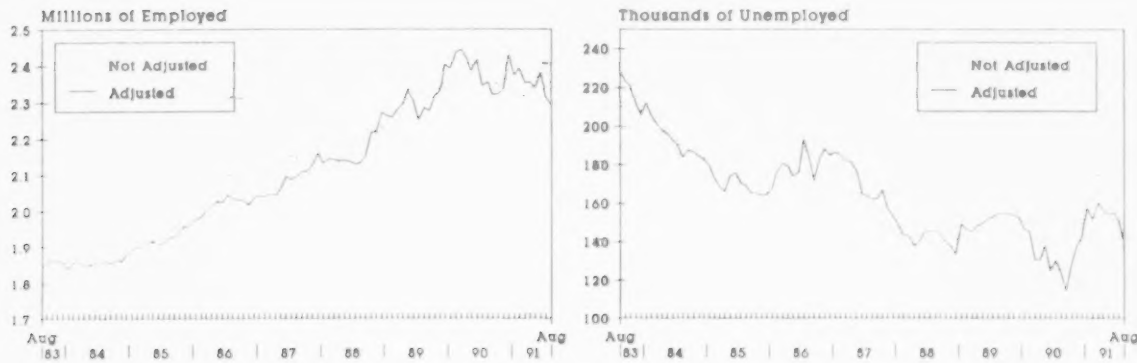
Washington's nonfarm wage and salary employment registered 8,100 workers greater than a year ago in August. The annual margin has progressively narrowed ever since the first of the year when the spread registered better than 76,000. And an increasing number of industries have scaled back.

Manufacturing has basically maintained a 5,100-worker shortfall (give or take a few hundred) since December of last year. Fully half of the reduction has centered in lumber and wood products (-2,800) with the rest spread rather widely throughout the goods-producing sector. Single plant closures in both primary metals (-900) and instruments and allied products (-700) pulled employment down accordingly. Transportation equipment other than aerospace (-1,800) joined forest products as an industry affected by the lengthening national recession. But some offset has come from year-to-year gains in electronics (+500), aircraft and parts (+1,800), and chemicals and allied products (+500).

First construction (-6,000) and then wholesale and retail trade (-6,600) joined manufacturing this year in pulling employment below last year's highs. The falloff to date has been relatively modest but does signal a slowing in the economy. Initially, only housing and department stores were affected. Now, virtually all sectors have succumbed. Some of the larger contributors have been residential and nonresidential building (-4,200), retail apparel and accessories (-1,600), automotive dealers and service stations (-1,300), and eating and drinking establishments (-1,400).

Offset is coming from continued strength in services (+15,700) and government (+9,200). These sectors typically are less prone to cyclical change than other portions of the economy. Health services (+8,000) and state and local education (+5,800) respond more to demographics than economic forces. And every indication hints that statewide population is continuing to grow rapidly. The fact that Washington in relative terms is doing better than many other areas of the country despite the slowdown remains a major draw.

Washington State Total Resident Employment and Unemployment August 1983 - August 1991



Source: Employment Security Department

AREA TRENDS

A Falling Tide Lowers All Boats

Unemployment dropped in all major areas of the state in August as the zenith of summer passed overhead. The metropolitan areas pulled back from 5.6 percent to 5.0 percent jobless on average with a range extending from 4.2 percent in the Seattle PMSA to 9.9 percent in Yakima. Spokane and Tacoma were positioned close to the mid-point at 5.3 percent and 5.5 percent, respectively. No area showed anything other than normal seasonal pattern, and all areas registered higher than a year ago by an average of a full percentage point.

The resource-based economies showed something less uniform. Both the timber-dependent areas of western Washington and the farm dominated portions of eastern Washington lowered unemployment in August. The former dropped from 8.2 percent to 7.7 percent and the latter from 7.6 percent to 7.3 percent on average over the month. But the range was much more stark from an abnormally low 1.0 percent in Garfield County to a recurring high of 16.7 percent in Skamania County. In addition, those economies with substantial orchardist activity, specifically the Wenatchee, Yakima, and Okanogan areas, bucked the trend

with unemployment temporarily moving up between the tree thinning and harvest phases.

Unemployment Rates by Geographic Areas State of Washington

Areas	Aug 1991	Jul 1991	Aug 1990
Washington State Total	5.4%	5.9%	4.2%
Metropolitan Areas	5.0%	5.6%	3.9%
Log & Lumber Areas	7.7%	8.2%	6.4%
All Western WA Areas	4.8%	5.4%	3.7%
All Eastern WA Areas	7.3%	7.6%	5.9%

Source: Employment Security Department

INDUSTRY NOTES

Boeing's Binge Is Behind

Third quarter earnings of the Boeing Company set an all-time high but the order backlog eased off. Companywide earnings were up 6 percent over the year to \$401 million, or \$1.17 a share, on sales of \$7.66 billion. But the order backlog dropped for the first time in years by \$1.3 billion to \$95.9 billion. Sales of Boeing aircraft soared as airlines scrambled to add new equipment. High fuel costs and fading traffic flows this year, however, have thrown the airlines into turmoil. As a result, Boeing announced that it would trim production of its 737 jetliner next year from 21 to 17 planes a month but boost the 757. Boeing currently employs 12,800 workers at its 737 and 757 plants in Renton.

Defense and Space Get Trimmed

In an accompanying move, Boeing announced it will trim 2,500 jobs from its Defense and Space Group in the wake of recent defense cuts. Specifically, three Boeing defense projects were shelved by the Administration: a rail garrison for MX missiles, a mobile launcher for the Midgetman missile, and the SRAM II short-range attack missile. In addition, approximately 700 workers will be laid off from the controversial B-2 stealth bomber project over the next year as that program moves from development into limited production.

Consolidated Banking

First Interstate Bank of Washington is moving to consolidate operations with the Portland-based regional office. The move is a cost measure by First Interstate Bancorp of Los Angeles, the parent company, to merge its 13 separate banks into 4 regions and thereby trim 10 percent of its workforce or 3,500 employees. Approximately 300 will be affected in Washington state.

As BankAmerica readies itself for the proposed mega-merger with Security Pacific Bank, it is putting 36 branches in Washington state up for sale. Combined deposits measure \$1.4 billion, but the accompanying loans will not be transferred. Seafirst (existing subsidiary of BankAmerica) and Security Pacific Bank hold an overwhelming share of deposits in many locations. The merger requires approval of stockholders and federal regulators.

Housing Prices Swing With The Times

Average selling prices of homes in King County increased for the months of July-to-September to \$180,400 from \$173,000 a year before, according to the Seattle Real Estate Research Committee. Further, average home prices in suburban King County inched above those in metropolitan Seattle for the first time: \$180,900 compared to \$179,200. Meanwhile, Snohomish County witnessed a \$2,400 loss in average home prices over the year to \$150,800 in the latest three months. Apartment vacancies in the two-county area inched higher by one-and-a-half percent to 5.6 percent and the average rent increased 4.6 percent to \$547 a month.

NATIONAL INDICATORS

GNP Moves To A Plus

Third quarter Gross National Product posted a 2.4 percent annual rate of growth after three quarters of decline. The advance was looked upon as a clear sign that the recession has finally ended. Higher consumer spending and a decrease in business inventory liquidation accounted for much of the boost. But in addition, housing construction and plant and equipment investment showed solid gains.

Further good news was a drop in the implicit price deflator to 1.8 percent from 4.5 percent in the prior quarter. Some offset, however, came from a widening trade deficit.

Consumers Still Leery

While the growth in GNP was encouraging, the economy very likely was advancing stronger at the beginning of the quarter than at the end. Personal income nationally rose 0.5 percent in August but consumer spending edged up only 0.1 percent. Americans saved most of the extra cash, boosting the overall savings rate from 3.6 percent in July to 3.9 percent in the following month. Adjusting for inflation, real personal consumption was off 0.2 percent in August after rising 0.6 percent in July.

Consumer confidence is the key. And the Conference Board's latest survey showed a drop in consumer expectations for future improvement of the economy despite a somewhat more favorable view of current conditions. The business research group's index registered 76.3 percent in August, down from 77.7 percent in July based on a benchmark of 100 set in 1985.

Sluggish Performance Holds Prices in Check

At the same time, retail prices rose only slightly in August. The Labor Department's Consumer Price Index posted a fractional 0.2 percent rise in the latest month as both food and energy costs continued to drop. Excluding the volatile food and energy components, the so-called "core rate" of inflation rose 0.4 percent - the same as recorded in the previous two months. On an annual basis, the nation's inflation rate is hovering around 2.7 percent, far below last year's 6.1 percent increase and certainly no longer a threat to the nation's economy.

Looks Like A Bumpy Road

The government's main economic forecasting index was flat in August after six months of straight increases dating back to the end of the Persian Gulf War. The latest reading confirmed reports of a lackluster recovery. The indicators had posted an average 0.8 percent increase each month since February, including a sharp 1.2 percent jump in July.

Most analysts believe that the recession did in fact end in the April-June quarter but that recovery from here on out will be uneven and slow.

Consumer Price Index
(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1982-1984 = 100)

	Indexes			% Change From	
	Aug 91	Jul 91	Aug 90	Jul 91	Aug 90
U.S. City Average	136.6	136.2	131.6	0.3%	3.8%
Seattle†	Jan-Jun	Jul-Dec	Jan-Jun	Jul-Dec	Jan-Jun
	1991	1990	1990	1990	1990
	133.0	129.4	124.2	2.8%	7.1%

†The index for Seattle reflects prices in King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties.
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Prepared by Dennis Fusco, Chief Economist

Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers in Washington State, Place of Work¹

In Thousands, Not Seasonally Adjusted

Industry	Aug		Jul		Numeric Change	
	1991 (Prel)	1991 (Rev)	1990 (Rev)	1990 (Rev)	Jul 1991 to Aug 1991	Aug 1990 to Aug 1991
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary	2,182.9	2,180.4	2,174.8	2,164.7	2.5	8.1
Manufacturing	370.3	366.4	375.4	371.8	3.9	-5.1
Durable Goods	257.8	257.5	262.5	262.9	0.3	-4.7
Lumber & Wood Products	38.8	38.9	41.6	41.8	-0.1	-2.8
Logging	9.5	9.5	10.4	10.3	0.0	-0.9
Sawmills & Plywood	25.4	25.4	27.3	27.5	0.0	-1.9
Furniture & Fixtures	4.1	4.1	4.3	4.2	0.0	-0.2
Stone, Clay, & Glass	7.9	7.9	8.0	8.1	0.0	-0.1
Primary Metals	12.3	12.4	13.2	13.3	-0.1	-0.9
Aluminum	8.7	8.8	9.0	9.0	-0.1	-0.3
Fabricated Metals	12.9	12.8	12.7	12.6	0.1	0.2
Industrial Machinery & Equipment	19.9	20.0	20.7	20.6	-0.1	-0.8
Computer & Office Equipment	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.4	0.0	0.1
Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment	12.0	11.9	11.5	11.5	0.1	0.5
Transportation Equipment	129.8	129.3	129.8	129.9	0.5	0.0
Aircraft & Parts	117.2	116.8	115.4	115.4	0.4	1.8
Instruments & Related	13.7	13.8	14.4	14.7	-0.1	-0.7
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.2	0.0	0.1
Nondurable Goods	112.5	108.9	112.9	108.9	3.6	-0.4
Food & Kindred Products	40.3	36.6	40.6	36.6	3.7	-0.3
Preserved Fruits & Vegetables	15.0	11.4	15.3	11.6	3.6	-0.3
Textiles, Apparel, & Leather	8.0	8.1	8.4	8.3	-0.1	-0.4
Paper & Allied Products	18.3	18.3	18.7	18.7	0.0	-0.4
Printing & Publishing	22.8	22.8	22.6	22.7	0.0	0.2
Chemicals & Allied Products	13.9	13.9	13.4	13.5	0.0	0.5
Petroleum, Coal, Plastics	9.2	9.2	9.2	9.1	0.0	0.0
Mining & Quarrying	3.8	3.8	4.0	3.9	0.0	-0.2
Construction	123.9	122.5	129.9	126.9	1.4	-6.0
General Building Contractors	35.0	34.4	39.2	38.4	0.6	-4.2
Heavy Construction, ex Buildings	18.2	18.2	18.8	18.2	0.0	-0.6
Special Trade Contractors	70.8	70.0	71.9	70.3	0.8	-1.1
Transportation, Communications, & Utilities	117.1	116.7	115.8	114.5	0.4	1.3
Transportation	81.9	81.2	80.5	80.1	0.7	1.4
Trucking and Warehousing	34.0	33.3	32.2	31.9	0.7	1.8
Water Transportation	10.0	10.1	9.8	10.1	-0.1	0.2
Transportation by Air	16.0	16.0	16.3	16.3	0.0	-0.3
Communications	25.0	25.2	25.4	24.6	-0.2	-0.4
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	10.2	10.3	9.9	9.8	-0.1	0.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	525.2	523.0	531.8	528.9	2.2	-6.6
Wholesale Trade	129.5	129.1	131.3	130.5 ²	0.4	-1.8
Retail Trade	395.7	393.9	400.5	398.4	1.8	-4.8
General Merchandise	37.5	36.7	38.5	38.4	0.8	-1.0
Food Stores	65.3	65.9	65.1	65.1	-0.6	0.2
Eating & Drinking	148.0	147.3	149.4	147.6	0.7	-1.4
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	119.1	118.8	119.3	118.6	0.3	-0.2
Finance	51.0	50.8	51.9	51.7	0.2	-0.9
Services	536.8	534.1	521.1	516.8	2.7	15.7
Hotels & Lodging	27.9	27.4	27.9	27.3	0.5	0.0
Personal Services	21.5	21.4	21.2	21.1	0.1	0.3
Business Services	91.3	90.0	89.5	88.3	1.3	1.8
Health Services	158.6	157.9	150.6	149.8	0.7	8.0
Educational Services	19.3	19.5	18.1	18.1	-0.2	1.2
Social Services	36.3	36.1	34.6	34.3	0.2	1.7
Engineering & Management Services	48.2	48.2	46.8	46.5	0.0	1.4
Government	386.7	395.1	377.5	383.3	-8.4	9.2
Federal	74.7	74.7	73.9	76.1	0.0	0.8
State	106.9	105.1	102.9	103.2	1.8	4.0
State Education	46.6	46.5	45.2	45.1	0.1	1.4
Local	205.1	215.3	200.7	204.0	-10.2	4.4
Local Education	96.6	106.7	92.2	97.1	-10.1	4.4
Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0

¹Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

²Workers excluded because of involvement in labor-management disputes.

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis

Resident Labor Force and Employment in
Washington State and Labor Market Areas

Date: 10/2/91
Benchmark: 1990

	August 1991 Preliminary†			July 1991 Revised†			August 1990 Revised†		
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment Rate
Washington State Total	2,479,800	2,346,600	133,200	2,556,100	2,385,500	150,600	2,515,200	2,409,200	106,000
Bellingham MSA	67,900	64,600	3,300	70,100	66,200	3,900	69,000	66,400	2,600
Bremerton MSA	82,600	78,900	3,700	85,200	80,700	4,500	82,100	78,800	3,300
Olympia MSA	82,300	78,000	4,300	84,100	79,400	4,700	83,700	80,200	3,500
Seattle PMSA	1,112,800	1,066,100	46,700	1,131,900	1,078,200	53,700	1,125,600	1,090,200	35,400
King County‡	878,500	842,500	36,000	893,200	851,900	41,300	888,700	861,400	27,300
Snohomish County‡	234,200	223,600	10,600	238,700	226,300	12,400	236,900	228,800	8,100
Spokane MSA	168,000	159,100	8,900	170,200	160,400	9,800	167,100	159,800	7,300
Tacoma PMSA	241,900	228,700	13,200	247,900	232,300	15,600	254,000	243,300	10,700
Tn-Cities MSA	77,000	71,700	5,300	77,700	70,600	7,100	76,400	71,600	4,800
Benton County‡	59,700	56,100	3,600	59,700	55,300	4,400	59,200	56,100	3,100
Franklin County‡	17,300	15,600	1,700	18,000	15,300	2,700	17,300	15,600	1,700
Vancouver PMSA	127,600	120,000	7,600	130,000	121,500	8,500	129,200	123,700	5,500
Yakima MSA	105,200	91,800	10,400	108,300	98,100	10,200	107,400	99,000	8,400
Adams	8,540	7,740	800	8,740	7,510	1,230	7,700	7,200	500
Asotin	9,530	9,180	350	9,710	9,330	380	9,140	8,850	290
Challam	23,540	22,030	1,510	24,320	22,530	1,790	24,440	23,070	1,370
Columbia	1,220	1,110	110	1,350	1,180	150	1,280	1,170	110
Cowlitz	37,640	34,880	2,760	39,810	36,780	3,030	38,780	36,470	2,310
Ferry	3,090	2,890	200	3,210	2,950	260	3,310	3,110	200
Garfield	1,000	990	10	1,050	1,020	30	1,000	1,000	20
Grant	29,020	26,790	2,230	30,000	26,940	3,060	28,030	26,350	1,680
Grays Harbor	25,280	22,950	2,330	26,030	23,480	2,550	26,310	24,430	1,880
Island	22,240	21,390	850	22,440	21,470	970	22,180	21,500	680
Jefferson	8,990	8,560	430	9,310	8,860	450	9,340	9,000	340
Kittitas	12,240	11,270	970	12,220	11,090	1,130	11,620	11,000	620
Klickitat	8,210	7,490	820	8,490	7,690	800	8,010	7,440	570
Lewis	23,240	21,260	1,980	23,850	21,520	2,330	25,800	24,280	1,520
Lincoln	4,540	4,390	150	4,560	4,380	180	4,520	4,420	100
Mason	15,250	14,290	960	15,770	14,610	1,160	14,520	13,750	770
Okanogan	18,410	16,370	2,040	19,840	18,060	1,780	18,650	16,920	1,730
Pacific	7,750	7,140	610	7,840	7,220	620	7,800	7,250	550
Pend Oreille	3,110	2,810	300	3,270	2,880	390	3,290	2,950	340
San Juan	7,360	7,200	160	7,390	7,210	180	7,350	7,220	130
Skagit	42,110	39,560	2,550	42,950	39,940	3,010	42,390	40,010	2,380
Skamania	2,160	1,800	360	2,250	1,830	400	2,190	1,930	260
Stevens	11,670	10,790	880	12,190	11,070	1,120	11,550	10,750	800
Wahakum	1,240	1,160	80	1,310	1,210	100	1,210	1,140	70
Walla Walla	22,760	21,740	1,020	23,590	22,370	1,220	23,190	22,160	1,030
Wenatchee Labor Area	46,850	41,870	4,980	52,210	48,390	3,820	49,130	45,350	3,780
Chelan County‡	31,310	27,760	3,550	34,850	32,080	2,770	32,640	30,070	2,570
Douglas County‡	15,540	14,110	1,430	16,360	15,310	1,050	16,500	15,290	1,210
Whitman	17,600	17,130	470	17,940	16,500	1,440	17,840	17,520	320

†Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. ‡Estimates are determined by using the Population Claims Share disaggregation methodology.

Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

August 1991 Unemployment Rates State of Washington = 5.4%



Estimated Average Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing and of Nonsupervisory Workers in Nonmanufacturing Activities, Washington State

	Preliminary August Production Workers & Nonsupervisory Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		Aug 91		Jul 91	Aug 90		Jul 91	Aug 91		Aug 90
Total Manufacturing Industries	216,874	\$534.60	\$533.52	\$509.44	39.6	39.0	39.8	\$13.50	\$13.68	\$12.80
Selected Manufacturing Industries										
Lumber and Wood Products	31,979	\$483.57	\$456.61	\$426.73	40.5	38.5	37.4	\$11.94	\$11.86	\$11.41
Primary Metal Industries	9,779	\$602.15	\$616.04	\$558.03	41.7	42.9	42.5	\$14.44	\$14.36	\$13.13
Fabricated Metal Products	10,399	\$541.03	\$547.96	\$505.12	41.3	41.2	41.0	\$13.10	\$13.30	\$12.32
Machinery	19,484	\$432.84	\$419.63	\$434.72	39.1	37.5	39.7	\$11.07	\$11.19	\$10.95
Food and Kindred Products	29,581	\$386.63	\$393.86	\$387.44	37.5	36.3	38.9	\$10.31	\$10.85	\$9.96
Chemical and Allied Products	4,638	\$722.79	\$724.46	\$655.70	43.1	43.2	41.5	\$16.77	\$16.77	\$15.80
Transportation Equipment	56,345	\$673.92	\$675.58	\$656.04	40.5	40.6	42.0	\$16.64	\$16.64	\$15.62
Selected Nonmanufacturing Industries										
Construction	94,667	\$705.99	\$715.26	\$646.76	38.6	38.6	37.8	\$18.29	\$18.53	\$17.11
Wholesale and Retail Trade (Includes eating and drinking establishments)	464,917	\$299.52	\$294.84	\$284.25	32.0	31.5	31.1	\$9.36	\$9.36	\$9.14

† Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not exactly reflect the official US Bureau of Labor Statistics definition of "wages." While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official US Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earning data.

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